GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:237
ANSWERED ON:20.10.2008
DREDGING OPERATIONS IN BRAHMAPUTRA RIVER
Subba Shri Moni Kumar

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of progress made in the dredging operations in Brahmputra river before the onset of Monsoon and flooding season during the current year alongwith cost incurred thereon; and

(b) the extent to which in helped in reducing the devastation caused by floods in Brahmaputra?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) & (b) As per the information provided by Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI), IWAI undertakes dredging operations for maintaining the required width and depth in the navigational channel. The need of dredging for this purpose arises only during lean season (October to March) when water depth reduces below required depth. During 2007-08, IWAI has executed 42090 cubic meter of dredging for providing navigation channel. IWAI has further informed that during the year 2007-08, a hydraulic surface dredger was made available by them to the State Government of Assam on their request for dredging in river Brahmaputra at Majuli Island for flood control measure. An expenditure of Rs. 36.57 lakh was incurred for dredging operation in National Waterway No.2 (Brahmaputra River), of which Rs.9.83 lakh was contributed by the State Govt. The dredging from channel resulted in diversion of part flow from the channel which was causing bank erosion.